

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 60021-334430	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US00/32308	International filing date (day/month/year) 22 NOVEMBER 2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 22 NOVEMBER 1999
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): G06F 17/60 and US Cl.: 705/7		
Applicant ACCENTURE LLP		

<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of <u>0</u> sheets.</p> <p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</li> <li>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</li> <li>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability</li> <li>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</li> <li>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</li> <li>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</li> <li>VII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</li> <li>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</li> </ul>	
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Date of submission of the demand  21 JUNE 2001	Date of completion of this report  07 AUGUST 2001
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231	Authorized officer  TARIQ HAFIZ <i>James R. Matthews</i>
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Telephone No. (703) 305-3900

**I. Basis of the report****1. With regard to the elements of the international application:\***

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:  
pages 1-482 , as originally filed  
pages NONE , filed with the demand  
pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the claims:  
pages 483-491 , as originally filed  
pages NONE , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19  
pages NONE , filed with the demand  
pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the drawings:  
pages 1-130 , as originally filed  
pages NONE , filed with the demand  
pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the sequence listing part of the  
description: NONE , as originally filed  
pages NONE , filed with the demand  
pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_

**2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.**

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language \_\_\_\_\_ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

**3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international**

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

**4. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:**

- ☒ the description, pages NONE
- ☒ the claims, Nos. NONE
- ☒ the drawings, sheets, fig. NONE

**5. ☐ This report has been drawn as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c))."**

*\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).*

*\*\*Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.*

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**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

## 1. statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-36</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>NONE</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-36</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>NONE</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-36</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>NONE</u>	NO

## 2. citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Claims 1-36 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a network-based supply chain method/system comprising the combined steps of planning demand/supply of manufacturer offerings, managing orders, managing network assets, and providing maintenance and service for the network (independent claims 1, 7, and 13); or an installation management method/computer program/system comprising the combined steps of receiving information from both a service provider and a manufacturer, matching the service to the manufacturer offerings, and thereby managing installations (independent claims 19, 25 and 31).

## ----- NEW CITATIONS -----

US 5,297,031 A (GUTTERMAN et al) 22 March 1994, all.

US 5,987,423 A (ARNOLD et al) 16 November 1999, all.

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**VII. Certain defects in the international application**

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

Claims 3, 9 and 15 are objected to under PCT Rule 66.2(a)(iii) as containing the following defect(s) in the form or contents thereof: Each of these claims is missing a period at the end of the claim.